

separating the cell suspension in the processing bag into a fraction enriched with specific cells by centrifugation in a centrifuge;

transferring the enriched fraction to a storage bag via an outlet tube;

adapting said outlet tube in a position having a radially inwardly directed flow and having a valve associated therewith;

whereby said step of transferring said enriched fraction through said outlet tube occurs upon activation of said valve into open position during centrifugation.

4. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1 in which the transferring of said enriched fraction via said outlet tube includes diverting said radial flow into a peripheral flow via a cell trap having an enlarged section for maintaining specific cells.

6. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1 in which the transferring of said enriched fraction via said outlet tube includes flowing through said valve and through a radially positioned portion of said outlet tube having a radially outwardly directed flow.

REMARKS

In response to the Official Action mailed October 23, 2002, Applicants have cancelled claims 2,12-20 in an effort to advance prosecution while preserving Applicants right to file a divisional application.

Claims 1-11, (note: the rejection states 1-12 but claim 12 was withdrawn from consideration), stand rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicants have amended the separating step of claim 1 to reflect the cell suspension in the processing bag. This was made to clarify the claim language to the Examiner and is believed to cure the Examiner's concerns as to indefiniteness.

Applicants have also amended claims 4 and 6 solely to provide consistency of language and antecedent basis between the claims.

Applicants therefore ask the Examiner to reconsider his rejection based on indefiniteness of claims 1-11 under 35 USC §112.